



ARTWORK: PAUL W.



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Dear friends,

Happy Pride Month! June is the celebration of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and queer people all over the world. For us, this is specifically a recognition of LGBTQ people behind bars whose voices and actions are so essential for our movement towards justice and liberation. Please begin this pride month by celebrating yourself and loving the powerful person that you are.

We are regularly told that the Stonewall riots were the beginning of the Gay Liberation struggle, but it is far more complex than that. As the Civil Rights Movement was getting stronger and successes were being won queer working class, poor, and gender non-conforming people began organizing their own communities of resistance. In San Francisco's Tenderloin neighborhood many queer and transgender young people were organizing the first organization for queer and transgender young people, **the Vanguard**. These young people and their older transwomen allies were regular patrons at Compton Cafeteria. At the time it was illegal for individuals to wear clothing of the "opposite" sex thus making any place transgender people gathered a target for police harassment, Compton Cafeteria was no exception. In August of 1966 transgender patrons and their allies were fed up with the police harassment and collaboration by the business owners and they fought back. Coffee was thrown in faces of cops, windows were smashed, and people fought back in the streets. The uprising went on for numerous nights until finally things settled and patrons were able to go back to the cafeteria with less harassment. We all know the chant, when we fight, we win!

No one moment began the movement, rather it was a culmination of many moments including Compton, Stonewall, and a culture of resistance that reached far beyond the bars, cafeterias, piers, and parks frequented by queers and transgender people. The Gay Liberation Front formed in New York City immediately after the Stonewall Riots. Almost as immediately the GLF came under surveillance by the FBI. They were considered part of the New Left, they chose their name specifically because of its allegiance with the Vietnamese National Liberation Front. GLF chapters quickly sprang up around the country, from San Francisco to Boston. GLF chapters marched in anti-war rallies, joined anti-police brutality marches, and included jails along the route of early gay pride parades. GLF folks had their own problems with race and gender but it wasn't helped as the FBI intentionally sent racist messages from the GLF to the Panthers and sent homophobic exclusionary messages from the Panthers to the GLF. The intentional divisive tactics by the FBI only exacerbated the already tense relationship between the two organizations. However, on August 15, 1970 Huey Newton, then leader of the Black Panther Party, delivered a speech calling for unity between Black liberation struggles with women's and gay liberation. While the government attempted to divide the movements attempted to build.

For Pride this year I wonder if we can take time to really look at our individual and group complexity and intersection. Not only are you a prisoner, not only are you a gay, lesbian, bisexual, and/or transgender person, not only are you a person of color, not only are you white, not only are you Muslim, you are a combination of all of these things together and all of your community histories. There is an African Proverb that says, "We are, therefore I am." This is a direct challenge to the American individualistic mentality of, "I think, therefore I am." This African Proverb encourages us all to see ourselves in relationship to one another, to understand our humanity as wrapped up in the humanity of everyone around us. As we celebrate pride in our queerness I hope we can take pride in all the ways we live in our GLBTQ bodies.

As always we do our work remembering that once there were no prisons, that day will come again. In faith and struggle,

Jason

The Ice Box

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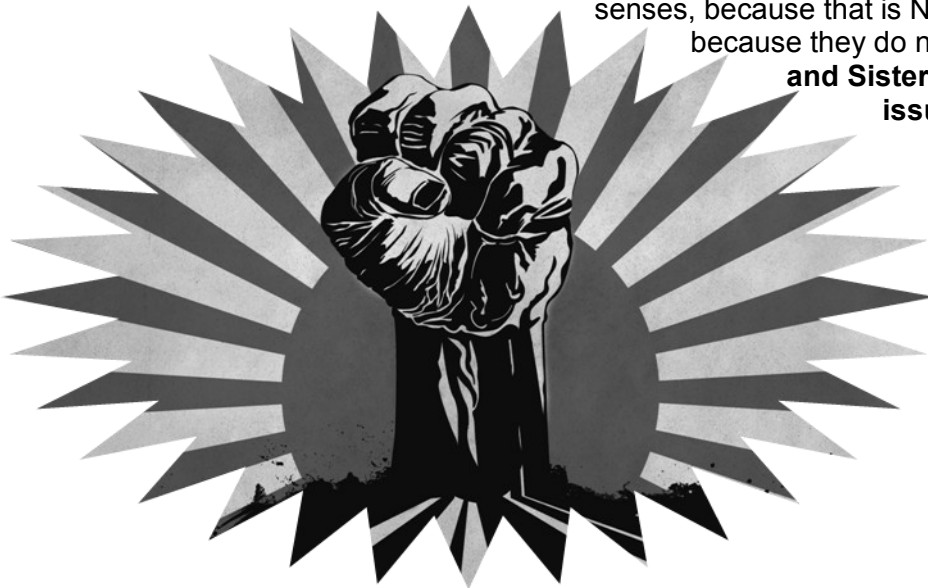
Recently, I spent some time in the "ice box." Hold on folks, I am not talking about a "real" icebox, but rather the Disciplinary Detention (hereafter called DD) unit. You see the reason I refer to DD as the icebox is simple. The cells are at most 10 feet long by 8 feet wide, and that might be a little on the high side of things. The cells are single cells and are FREEZING cold. Ice would have a tough time melting in one of these cells. The orange scrubs that you are required to wear are inadequate at best in terms of keeping you warm. The bedding is NOT any better. This is the fourth time I have spent time in the DD icebox. The first time and the most recent time, I admit that I deserved DD time for my behavior. However, the other two times I did NOT deserve DD time. I have one case pending Post Conviction Relief. I guess my point is rather simple, we inmates may not have many rights, but ONE right we do have is to decently warm housing housing environments, especially when the outside temperatures are barely above freezing. Not to mention by FEDERAL law, prisons are required to provide adequate clothing, bedding, and housing conditions that are appropriate to the current weather. In this case, it was WINTER! I speak not only for myself in this matter, but for all of use here and across the country that have made the trip to the ICE BOX. I can safely say that in the icebox cells here where I am at, cell temperatures are at least 15 to 20 degrees COLDER than any other living unit in the whole building. As far as the staff caring, please tell me I have taken leave of my

senses, because that is NOT going to happen around here, because they do not care one bit about us. **Brothers**

and Sisters, we need to take a stand on issues like this one and let whoever

needs to know that stuff like this is very UNACCEPTABLE and will not be tolerated. In the meantime, remember two very important things. First, GOD loves you as much as I do. Second, once there were NO prisons, and that day will SOON come again.

Peace and Love,
Andy K., Indiana



Trapped in this cell

As I sit trapped in this cell
I look at the four white walls
Being trapped in this cell makes me think
Of the woman trapped inside of me
Trapped screaming to be let out
This cell surrounds me 20 hours a day
But the woman inside cries out 24 hours a day
To be set free!

By: Staci, Oregon



Editor's Note: Prisoner last names have been shortened to last initials beginning in the May newsletter. This newsletter is posted on the internet, and can be searched by search engines. We want to respect privacy.

Free Like the Wind

The sand of time move swiftly and fast...
 As I search for love, one that's true and will last...
 A love that's like Heaven divine...
 Where my heart and soul gets lost in the sands of time...
 A love that's pure and gentle and heart...
 One that will stay forever and never part...
 I search for someone to hold me tight...
 And make love to me all through the night...
 Someone soft and gentle as the wind...
 Someone who will love me forever until life's end...
 Someone who is not just a lover, but my best friend...
 Someone who will set my spirit free like the wind...



-Greg B., Missouri

Keep Away

Who are you, no one to me
 With malice in your heart and hateful eyes
 Circulating rumor fodder and feeding the lies
 Why do you care, who or what I am
 What your neighbor does, or where he stands
 Be who you are man, and I'll still be me
 You can chain your mind and heart
 And spend your days hating
 I'll still stand by my friends
 And set my mind free



Peace, Love, and Rock & Roll
 Jay, Texas

Who's to Say

Who's to say what type of love is good and what type is bad.
 It wasn't until I tried something different that I experienced
 the best I've ever had.
 Shy at first, but throwing caution to the wind.
 I finally took the plunge, and I haven't looked back since.
 But in the process I admit, I've lost a few friends.
 Been called a few names, and discriminated against.
 And as bad as I felt when that happened to me,
 I still find joy 'cause I was finally free.
 I love on my terms, whomever I choose.
 Who that may be, the heart never knows.
 Crosses and arrows, back door and fronts.
 Who am I to deny the heart what it wants?
 So I go with the flow and embrace what I get.
 I love with a passion, and I openly display it.
 So again who's to say what type of love is good and what love is bad?
 It wasn't until I tried something different that I experienced the best I've ever had.
 Shy at first, but throwing caution to the wind.
 Now I'm open and free and I love who I am!!
 -Dedicated to the B&P Movement. By: Shades of Gray, Philly.

Male Bonding

As delicious as a triple chocolate cake
 With cream cheese icing.
 As sensual as the caress of Persian silk-
 Across a firm and supple buttocks.
 It is not taboo, to do what lovers do-
 Regardless the lies they told you.
 As natural as the bees that produce honey-
 Is the camaraderie that we share.
 Kindred- like so many others-
 In this planetary amusement park.
 Release the shame-
 Throw off the guilt.
 Become your complete true self-
 Confident and Secure.
 We haven't chosen anything-
 At least no more or less than "they" have.
 We were designed in the cosmos-
 Exactly as we were meant to be.
 Masterpieces of flawed perfection-
 Equals in this human race.



-Mr. Patrice D., Illinois



Robert M.

Nice Piss 2011

Art: Robert M.

Your Ballot: Vote for the Leadership Circle!

B&P #	Put an "X" in up to 10 boxes to Vote for Prisoner Candidates	
100		Jordan Nathaniel G.
101		Shawn "Harlequinne Mystique" B.
102		William F.
103		Bobby-Joe B.
104		Juan H.
105		Angela Monique R.
106		Pat T.
107		Anthony U.
108		Timothy C.
109		Lee D.
110		J.D. H. (Jamee Diedre)
111		Paul F. S. – AKA Shaylanna
112		Sheldon T.
113		Wesley P.
114		Bryan B.
115		Andrew H.
116		Charlie C.
117		Mandell M.
118		Ken L.
119		Bobby D.
120		Tom M.
121		Kelly J.
122		Jennifer G.
123		Robert M.
124		Ricky M.
125		Dan C.
126		Kevin F.
127		Patrice D.
128		Nelson L. Jr.
129		Tonie E.
130		Daryl H.

It's PRIDE season, and it's also VOTING season!!

In the JUNE 2011 and JULY 2011 issues of the Black & Pink Newsletter, you will have a chance to read through statements written by Leadership Circle applications and VOTE!!!

PLEASE MAIL THIS PAGE BACK TO:
BLACK AND PINK—LC VOTE
C/O COMMUNITY CHURCH OF BOSTON
565 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

The Leadership Circle is a 1-year commitment. The concept of a group of 20 people (10 people in prison and 10 people in the "free world") has been chosen so there can be many voices, and not be too big to make communication hard. So far, only 8 of the "freeworld" volunteers have expressed interested in the extra commitment of joining the LC.

Since more people want to be on the "inside" Leadership Circle than can, we hope people will coordinate B&P projects in their prison, start a chapter, be a contact person, or regularly share thoughts. We need it all :)

For those elected to the Leadership Circle, written training will be provided about decisions making, organizing, and other skills that LC members request training on. All levels of experience can respond, what's most important is our passion and commitment.

The B&P Purpose and Analysis will best be served by having a diversity of people on the Leadership Circle (LC). This includes race, gender, sexuality, age, geography, lifers/short-timers, ability, etc. The "free world" LC would like our full LC to be at least half people of color, not majority male, and well-represented by lifers and people with long sentences.



B&P #	Put an "X" in up to 8 boxes to Vote for "Free world" Candidates	
200		Libby Collins
201		Dustin Tompkins
202		Elizabeth Winter Forsyth
203		Dorsey Bass
204		Ian Trefethen
205		Jason Lydon
206		Reed Miller
207		Emma O'Brien

Prisoner Leadership Circle Candidates

Jordan Nathaniel G.

Being young doesn't make me any less susceptible to the harsh realities of life. Personally I've experienced the hurt/pain of the world. I/we must speak about the silence, if we are to end the suffering. This includes all those free and incarcerated. We must stand for each other if we don't who will? Remember it only takes one voice to start a revolution.

Race – Hispanic	Gender – Male	Location – Huntsville, TX
Sexuality – Homosexual/gay	Age – 27	Sentence – 11 years

Shawn “Harlequinne Mystique” B.

Because I'm articulate, ambitious, understanding, empathetic, merciful, compassionate, open-minded, direct, full of conviction, thoughtful and selfless, extroverted and love people, my vision is that we all unite and support and love one another in every way possible, motivated by love, equality and selflessness. I hope to exemplify and embody love for all through example and selflessness and win more rights for our people.

Race – white	Gender – Bi-gendered/woman	Age – 32
Sexuality – Born male	Location - Iowa Park, Texas	Sentence – Life + 6 years

William F.

I would like to join the leadership circle not only to improve my situation, but that others who are like me, incarcerated, cut off from the “real world,” lonely and in need of meaningful inspiration from those not just from within the walls, but those who are out there on the outside who care about us our struggles with the system, as well as the day-to-day struggles with those who are around us who either don't understand, don't care, or even worse – hate us based on their personal fears.

Race – White	Gender – Male	Age – 40
Sexuality – Gay	Location – Marion Ohio	Sentence – 15 to life
Other – Orthodox Jewish		

Bobby-Joe B.

I think that I would be a great asset to the leadership circle because I am always trying to find better ways to better myself and the places that I am. I always try to help my fellow men/women, I am open-minded and can adapt to changes or to new ideas that may be proposed. I would love the chance to help one and all.

Race – white	Gender – male	Age 34
Sexuality- bisexual	Location – Beeville, TX	Sentence – 27 years

Angela Monique R.

I want to join the Leadership “Circle because I feel like the LGBTQ's of all the prisons should be treated like the non-LGBTQ's because we are all human. Just because we love the same sex does not make us any different from the rest of the people.

Race – African American	Gender – Femme	Age – 30
Sexuality – Bisexual	Location – Gatesville, TX	Sentence – 2 Years

Pat T.

I have been incarcerated since 1979 and over the past 32 years I have worked hard to help educate others that they have choices they need not live in fear. They can control their lives and bodies while in Prison. In the mid 1990s I helped found and incorporate a Native American organization with a council made up of inmates around the country. Although I am no longer associated with it I believe “Earthbridge” is still going strong.

Race – Native American	Gender – Male	Age 52
Sexuality – Gay/TV	Location – Missouri	Sentence – Life

Anthony U.

I believe very much in Black and Pink's mission and want to use my skills as a leader to reach my brothers and sisters who are with me in this struggle. As a LC member I will do everything in my power to bring positive energy and unity to all of the B&P family. This unity is what is most important

Race – white	Gender – male	Age – 33
Sexuality – gay	Location – Texarkana, TX	Sentence – Out July 2013

Timothy C.		
I support our rights by making people aware of what we go through in prison. Men here come to me to talk as they're looking for support or answers on gay/bi lifestyle. They put their trust in me not to lie and I don't. I have helped young men outside deal with problems they faced due to family and friends.		
Race – white	Gender- male	Age 44
Sexuality – gay	Location – Abilene, TX	Sentence – Life
Lee D.		
I am a gay male incarcerated in Texas; that have and make policies discriminating against prisoners. I would like to join the leadership circle. I have more than 20 years experience with prisoners and GED cognitive skills. I'm a clergyman, president/executive Director and program agent. I'm orderly, organized and accept authority.		
Race – African American	Gender – Male	Location – Huntsville, TX
Sexuality – Gay	Age – 39	Sentence 99 Years
J.D. H. (Jamee Diedre)		
I want to be in the Leadership Circle to be part of the solution and to be strong for those who can't be. I am a retired S.F.C. U.S. Army Rangers, and currently serve our Wiccan Circle as Elder and Priestess. I desire to be an example, through leadership, that we can all be who we really are and to show love, strength, and pride for ourselves and others. Blessed Be.		
Race – Irish/Cherokee	Gender – Trans-woman	Age 43
Sexuality – bisexual	Location – Lovelock Nevada	Sentence – Life x 2
Paul F. S. – AKA Shaylanna		
I would like to join the LC because I have prior experiences from being the leader of my Boy Scouts Troop. With the knowledge I have I will be able to swing a wrecking ball into the racist and sexist underpinnings of the American prison system. I can show individuals how to confront the human rights catastrophe in our jails and prisons.		
Race – African American	Gender – Trans-woman	Age – 24
Sexuality – not biased	Location – New York State	Sentence – 28 years
Sheldon T.		
I offer a life commitment. I'm experienced in prison matters, educated, with the social skills of communicating even with difficult individuals. Should I become a member of the LC you can be assured that my dedication with maintain a continuation B&P's integrity and commitment to quality and overall excellence towards assisting our LGBTQ family as a whole.		
Race – Black	Gender – Male	Location, Lovelady, TX
Sexuality – Gay	Age – 40	Sentence – Life
Wesley P.		
I'm a gay, outspoken man and am respected by many in my immediate surroundings. I know how to litigate a little and have been incarcerated in the Texas prison system for 12 years on a 15-year sentence and know how to teach my peers, especially those who are gay, bisexual, etc., on survival techniques in prison, and how to advocate for and support each other.		
Race – Black	Gender – male	Location – Kenedy, TX
Sexuality – homo	Age 33	Sentence – 15 years
Bryan B.		
I am well educated, motivated and experienced. I have extensive experience with computers, Internet, technology and entrepreneurship. I can help with many ideas for fundraising and starting a business to pay for expenses. I have a big heart but a tortured soul that needs to make a difference and make new decent friend and set us all free.		
Race – white	Gender – male	Location – Bellefonte, PA
Sexuality – gay	Age – 40	Sentence – 9-30 years
Juan H.		
I like to hear what other people have to say and like to write to people that's just like me, gay J I hope I am doing right by my people.		
Race – Black	Gender – gay	Age – 32
Sexuality – gay boy	Location – Represa, CA	Sentence – life

Andrew H.		
I read books on a college level – I read books every day all day including revolutionary, spiritual, economics, and anti-imperialism. I write good poems too with a lesson at the end. I am good at networking and getting along with everybody. I got a lot of information that I can provide in support of our goals and aspirations. I am a great thinker.		
Race – Black	Gender – male	Location – Frackville, PA
Sexuality – Bisexual	Age – 30	Sentence – 10-20 years
Charlie C.		
I would like to become a member of the Leadership Circle because I never have been a member of anything at all and am willing to learn. In the prison system in PA all of the guards pick on the gay, bisexual prisoners by sexual harassment and denying you the things you want and even talk to you mean and deny your paper-work and ask for sexual favors and sometimes take it. I would like to help stop prison rape.		
Race – white	Gender – male	Location – Cresson, PA
Sexuality – bisexual	Age – 37	Sentence – 16 months to 5 years
Mandell M.		
I feel that I would be a good leader because I am a good people person, I know how to talk to people, I am a good listener and I like to show people how to get things done instead of just talking. I also like to bring the talent out of others.		
Race – Jamaican/Scottish	Gender – Male	Location – Clinton, NY
Sexuality – Bi	Age – 27	Sentence – Out 2012 or 2013
Ken L.		
I love to help others in need. I'm very friendly, open-minded and a great listener. I'm the head rep for my religious group here. I'm a great leader and I can always learn from others too.		
Race – white	Gender – male	Location – Petersburg, VA
Sexuality – gay	Age – 35	Sentence – Out in 2018
Bobby D.		
I want to be helpful to the youth and many people who are incarcerated, as well as many beyond these prison walls, and I really enjoy working with people from every walk of life. I am a great listener. I am a good person and want to be helpful to Black and Pink.		
Race – African American/Native American	Gender – Male	Location – Vacaville, CA
Sexuality – Bisexual	Age – 48	Sentence – Pending
Tom M.		
I'm a person that others tend to gravitate to for advice and help. I have been incarcerated for 20 years; hence I know how to navigate the penal system. My sexuality and gender neutrality encourage people to approach me and help make them real at ease around me. This aids me in being a part of positive change and utilizing my leadership abilities.		
Race – white	Gender – Androgynous	Location – Buena Vista, CO
Sexuality – bisexual	Age – 38	Sentence – 30 years
Kelly J.		
I would like to be a part of B&P for a number of reasons, but the most important to me is the fact that I really want to contribute something positive and to somehow make up at least in part for the wrongs I have brought upon myself and especially others. Skills: former office professional, political newsletter editor/writer, current self-taught jailhouse lawyer and multi-grievance filer.		
Race – white	Gender – male	Location – North Carolina
Sexuality – gay/queer	Age – 46	Sentence – 305 months
Jennifer G.		
I've been imprisoned over 21 years and am serving a life sentenced under "three strikes" for an inmate-manufactured weapon and assault and battery on an officer. I would like to help organize and give voice especially to lesbian/Amazon feminist revolution and prison abolition in addition to LGBTQ activism		
Race – white/American Indian	Gender – Transwomyn	Age – 41
Sexuality – bisexual	Location- Tehachapi, CA	Sentence – Lifer

Robert M.		
I am an LGBTQ advocate here. I help anyone who has a problem with staff or policy, especially those who can't read or write. I'm already a thorn in the prison's side. I hate bullies. We should be proud of who we are and never allow anyone to take away our pride of being gay. Stand proud. Smile. Father of 6.		
Race – Hispanic	Gender – male	Location – Corocran, CA
Sexuality – bisexual	Age – 38	Sentence – Life w/o parole
Ricky M.		
During the more than 20 years of my life in state and federal prisons/jails, I have been beaten, robbed, terrified, raped, have seen friends die, AIDS kill, suicides, had family abandon me and parents die. But I've also been loved, in-love, forgiven by God, made friends, been a leader, learned survival skills, been educated, created art and had great sex. Through my experiences I could provide insight to the leadership circle of what life in prison is truly like and the reforms that need to be made.		
Race – white	Gender – male	Sentence – Life
Sexuality – gay	Age – 50	Location – New Boston, TX
Dan C.		
I would like to become a leader because I always encourage people to do the right thing in life to become a better person. I am one who loves to communicate through letters with people.		
Race – Black	Gender – male	Location – Wichita Falls, TX
Sexuality – bisexual	Age – 40	Sentence – 35 years, on appeal
Kevin F.		
I am a jailhouse lawyer; I recognize that it is only through the outside unification and inside unification that we can beat the prison industrial complex. Plus we need to expand training into other parts of the country. It must be understood that one of the main reasons the government is able to keep such a strangle on society is the media, so we as a prison grounded network must also use the same weapon the system uses.		
Race – African American	Sexuality – Bisexual	Location – Santa Rosa, CA
Gender – Male	Age – 42	Sentence – Life plus 25 years
Patrice D.		
I am a relatively intelligent person who is definitely socially conscious. I believe I can articulate certain points of view that may not be necessarily emphasized by B&P. I care about improving planetary conditions, regardless of the fact that I am incarcerated. Also, I want to do my part to put an end to the prison industrial complex, I've studied the topic extensively. I don't want to treat the disease of the PIC, I want to get rid of it.		
Race – Black	Gender – male	Location – Pontiac, IL
Sexuality – gay	Age – 35	Sentence – Life w/o parole
Nelson L. Jr.		
I want to join the leadership circle because I have been in prison for a year and everybody hates me and my friends and we need to stick together as a family to show them we are still human beings. I have been gay since I was 13 years old and I want to help a lot of my friends in life.		
Race – Hispanic	Gender – Male	Location – Waynesburg, PA
Sexuality – Gay	Age – 21	Sentence – 6 – 12 years
Tonie E.		
I would love to join the leadership circle due to the fact that we as transgenders are being discriminated against. We as a whole need to be heard. We need to be understood and not misused. I would like to listen to others and share with them how I perceive matters, situations, issues. As a leadership councilperson I will be able to help others and it has not been easy being in prison and I take it one day at a time. God is good!		
Race – African American	Gender – Transgender	Location – Delano, CA
Sexuality – males only	Age – 55	Sentence – Lifer
Daryl H.		
I know the prison industrial complex top to bottom, starting as a ward of the state at age 8, Boys Homes, Juvenile prisons, courts, to adult prison at 17. I've been in prison since 1997 with the exception of one year. I am very intelligent and I know Oklahoma and federal law. I know all the facts of Gay prison issues. I will never get out of prison.		
Race – white	Gender – male	Location – Lawton, OK
Sexuality – gay	Age – 30	Sentence – 56 years

"Free World" Leadership Circle Candidates

Libby Collins	
I've been volunteering with the pen-pal program since December 2010, and I f**king hate prisons. I am a womens and genders studies and political science student, and I hope to keep working on the LC!	
Race – white	Gender – woman
Sexuality – queer	Age – 21
Dustin Tompkins	
I would like to be part of the leadership circle because I feel that prisons are one of the worst systems of oppression in America and I want to do whatever I can to abolish them. I've been processing mail for months.	
Race – white	Gender – male
Sexuality – queer	Age – 25
Elizabeth Winter Forsyth	
I want to be part of the Leadership Circle because I want to live together with all the LGBT people in this country in one big happy family! I have been an Outreach Volunteer for several months, recruiting more volunteers and pen-pals, on the internet and in person.	
Race – white	Gender – femme genderqueer
Sexuality – pansexual	Age – 22
Dorsey Bass	
I've been volunteering with Black & Pink since Sept. 2010. Currently I am a co-coordinator of Black & Pink Art and a volunteer for the pen-pal program. I am excited about building a loving and inclusive movement for prison abolition with our amazing Black & Pink family!	
Race – white	Gender – boy
Sexuality – queer	Age – 19
Ian Trefethen	
Hi! I have worked on the Pen-pal program and Newsletter since 2009. My passion is social justice organizing for liberation. I believe in building LGBTQ community on both sides of the prison bars. I would be honored to serve our family on the Leadership Circle until more people formerly incarcerated or directly impacted by the prison system take my place.	
Race – white	Gender – male
Sexuality – queer	Age – 29
Jason Lydon	
I have been dedicated to the abolition of the prison industrial complex for a long time. Since getting out of prison it has been a top priority of my life to be sure that LGBTQ prisoners are heard and supported until we are rid of such a terrible system. I would love to continue in a position of leadership.	
Race – white	Gender – man
Sexuality – queer	Age – 28
Reed Miller	
I joined LGBTQ advocacy and anti-war activism when I was 15; I started Black and Pink Art in Spring 2010. So many things about American society disturb me; many of them are related to racism and capitalism. I hate that people are inhumanely put in cages, and I want my fellow LGBTQ people to develop awareness and challenge these systems.	
Race – white	Gender – transman (female-to-male)
Sexuality – queer	Age – 25
Emma O'Brien	
I've been reading and responding to incoming mail for Black and Pink since February 2011 and would adore continuing to work for this organization through the Leadership Circle. Being a part of this community, in and outside prison walls, is something I am exceptionally grateful for. Thanks, y'all!	
Race – white	Gender – ciswoman (woman at birth and now)
Sexuality – queer	Age – 21

Newsletter Subscriptions (start or stop)

Newsletter Submissions

Free "Outside" Pen-Pal Requests

SEND YOUR BALLOTS TO:

Ideas for Black & Pink and
Statement of Purpose Feedback

Write to B&P!

Write to B&P Art!

*****New Address as of January 2011! *****

Black and Pink– Newsletter Subscriptions

Black and Pink– Newsletter Submissions

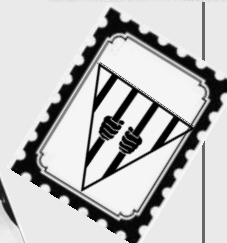
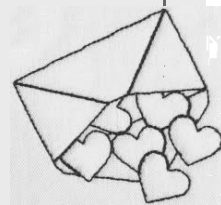
Black and Pink– Pen Pal

Black and Pink– LC VOTE

Black and Pink– Developing Leadership

c/o Community Church of Boston
565 Boylston Street
Boston, MA 02116

Black & Pink Art c/o Reed Miller
200 Amory Street
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130



LEGAL: Consider writing to Lambda Legal for support or referrals with legal issues that you are having. "Lambda Legal is a national organization committed to achieving full recognition of the civil rights of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, transgender people and those with HIV through impact litigation, education and public policy work."

Lambda Legal, National Office 120 Wall Street, Suite 1500, New York, NY 10005, 212-809-8585

Another resource to turn to, if you can afford the subscription (\$24 yearly, payable with new stamps), is Prison Legal News. This resource was co-started by a former gay prisoner, Ed Mead, though now it is run by Paul Wright. You can reach them by writing to: **Prison Legal News, P.O. Box 2420, West Brattleboro, VT 05303**

SURVIVORS: Just Detention International provides support for prisoners who are survivors of sexual abuse. Write them at the legal address below for a packet. Each packet includes an introductory letter, a list of local resources, fact sheets, publications about recovery from sexual abuse, and a letter of hope from another survivor.

Ms. Melissa Rothstein, Esq., 3325 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 340, Los Angeles, CA 90010

Sylvia Rivera



Sylvia Rivera (right), famous for going up to a NYC legislator and hitting him in the head with a clipboard until he signed an equality bill, amongst other radical direct actions.

From her obituary: Sylvia Rivera, Stonewall riot veteran and life-long activist for transgendered people, died during the dawn hours of February 19, 2002 at New York's St. Vincent's Hospital, of complications from cancer of the liver. Born July 2, 1951, her activism developed after leaving home at age 11 and finding herself in the Times Square subculture of the 1960s. The harassment of gay persons and in particular the flamboyant gender-variant people such as herself, led her to become a staunch, proud, completely unrepentant, and uncompromising advocate for drag queens, transvestites, transsexuals and other gender-variant people throughout her life. She was present and

participated in the Stonewall Riots, which became the determining event in her life. She often remarked about how what had started as just another gay bar raid by the police took on such mythical significance for the development of the Gay Rights Movement. She joined the Gay Activists Alliance in February of 1970. Her first major deception at the hands of the gay movement occurred when drag rights were specifically excluded from the bill to make it more palatable to "straight" people, and reflect the assimilationist attitude of the Gay Rights movement at the time. This betrayal was a lesson she carried with her in all her future activism. In the early 1970s, Rivera and Marsha P. Johnson co-founded S.T.A.R., Street Transvestite Action Revolutionaries, an organization designed to achieve rights for her community and provide social services.